

DATA PROCESSING TECHNIQUE FOR FORMATTING DATA FILES THAT ARE
SUBJECTED TO A HIGH VOLUME OF CHANGES

Abstract of the Disclosure

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A system for processing a data file which includes
versioned records of a fixed length, each record having one
or more data fields and a reserve area for accommodating a
change in the record format by creating a further field
10 using a portion of the reserve area such that the length of
the record is not changed. Additional records may be added
to the record set to accommodate new or expanded data fields
that exceed the fixed length of the records. Each record of
the data file has a version number. The system includes an
15 input vertical stack processor for transitioning previous
versions of the records into a current version of the record
for processing by an application processor. An output
vertical stack processor creates outbound versioned records
including the current version and all previous versions for
20 each record of the data file.